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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/572,835	04/17/2007	Peter Lurkens	DE 030334	3723
24737 7590 11/15/2007 PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001			EXAMINER	
			NGUYEN, VINCENT Q	
BRIARCLIFF	MANOR, NY 10510	ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		PAPER NUMBER
		2858		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/15/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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	<del></del>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Office Action Summary		10/572,835	LURKENS, PETER	
		Examiner	Art Unit	
	The MAN INC DATE of the	Vincent Q. Nguyen	2858	
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	lears on the cover sheet with the	correspondence address	
VVHI - Exte after - If NO - Failt Any	CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE MAILING THE	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATIO 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be ti vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from , cause the application to become ABANDON	N. imely filed  In the mailing date of this communication.  ED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	
Status				
	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>29 O</u> This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) This Since this application is in condition for allowar closed in accordance with the practice under E	action is non-final.  nce except for formal matters, pr		
Disposit	ion of Claims		,	
5)□ 6)⊠ 7)⊠	Claim(s) <u>1-10</u> is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>10</u> is/are withdrawn for Claim(s) <u>1.2 and 6-9</u> is/are rejected.  Claim(s) <u>3-5</u> is/are objected to.  Claim(s) <u>are subject to restriction and/or claim(s) <u>1.2 and 6.9</u> is/are objected to.</u>	rom consideration.		
Applicat	ion Papers	•		
·	The specification is objected to by the Examine			
10)	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) according to the drawing a			
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	<b>-</b> , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	, ,	
11)	The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Priority (	under 35 U.S.C. § 119			
12)⊠ a)	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign  All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents  2. Certified copies of the priority documents  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureau  See the attached detailed Office action for a list	s have been received. s have been received in Applicative documents have been received in Applicative documents have been received.	tion No red in this National Stage	
	ce of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) 🔲 Interview Summary		
3) Infor	ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) er No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)/Mail D  5) Notice of Informal I  6) Other:		

Art Unit: 2858

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

### Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election of Group I including claims 1-9 in the reply filed on 10/29/2007 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Claim 10 is withdrawn from further consideration. The Election/Restrictions is thus made FINAL.

### Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

10/572,835 Art Unit: 2858

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains legal phraseology (e.g. means, said, line 6). Also, the phrase such as "The invention is characterized by the following steps:" should be removed. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

#### **Guidelines**

4. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

# Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
  - (1) Field of the Invention.
  - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

10/572,835 Art Unit: 2858

- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (I) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).
- 5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
  The disclosure should include the section headings as discussed above.
  Appropriate correction is required.

## · Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 7. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hess (4,507,569) in view of Nilssen (5,422,546).

With respect to claims 1, 2, 6-9, Hess discloses a method determining a zero point (Element 18) of a current sensor in a circuit for operating a gas discharge lamp comprising

Application/Control Number:

10/572,835

Art Unit: 2858

the steps of the current (Figure 2b-2g) through the sensor is switched off (By element 11)

for a short period (By element 11) and a first test value (Figures 2a-2g) is determined, then

the current through the sensor is switched off for a short period (Figures 2b-2g) at second

half wave having a different polarity and a second test value is determined.

The only difference between Hess and the claimed invention is that the claimed

invention recites the current is switched off for a short period during half wave and

determining the average value is formed of two test values whereas Hess does not

disclose.

Nilssen discloses a system similar to that of Hess and further discloses the current

is switched off during half wave (Col. 18, lines 23-49) for the purpose of observing the

magnitude of the AC voltage between the buses to combine with an auto-transformer

without having to add a separated transformer (Col. 18, lines 45-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to incorporate the step of switching off the current during half wave as taught by

Nilssen and determining the average values into the system of Hess because manipulate

the values of current to get the average and observing the magnitude of the current being

switched off during half wave would enhance the automation of the transformer.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 3-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but

would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the

base claim and any intervening claims.

Page 5

Application/Control Number:

10/572,835 Art Unit: 2858 Page 6

### **Contact Information**

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Vincent Q. Nguyen Primary Examiner Art Unit 2858

November 8, 2007